

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Katsumi AOYAGI et al.

Title: METHOD OF DETECTING HEPATITIS C  
VIRUS

Appl. No.: Unassigned

Filing Date: Herewith

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.115**

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present National Stage Application, Applicants respectfully request that the application be amended as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: